

Assembly Bill No. 183

Passed the Assembly September 8, 2003

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate September 4, 2003

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day of
_____, 2003, at _____ o'clock __M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

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CHAPTER _____

An act to add Section 14132.415 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 183, Nation. Medi-Cal: benefits.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services, pursuant to which medical benefits are provided to public assistance recipients and certain other low-income persons. Under existing law, these benefits include early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment for any individual under 21 years of age, known as EPSDT, consistent with the requirements of specified federal law.

This bill would provide for coverage under the Medi-Cal program for Medi-Cal services provided by a licensed marriage and family therapist and a licensed clinical social worker as a supplemental service provider in the EPSDT program for beneficiaries of any age, consistent with existing law defining the scope of practice of marriage and family therapy and clinical social work, to the extent that federal matching funds are available for those services, and subject to utilization controls. This bill would make implementation of these provisions contingent upon an appropriation in the annual Budget Act or another statute.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 14132.415 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

14132.415. (a) Services covered by Medi-Cal that are provided by a licensed marriage and family therapist and a licensed clinical social worker as a supplemental service provider in the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) program shall be covered under this chapter for beneficiaries of any age, consistent with Sections 4980.02 and 4996.9 of the Business and Professions Code, to the extent that federal matching funds are available, and subject to utilization controls, including the utilization control specified in Section 51304 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.



(b) This section shall be implemented only if funds are appropriated in the annual Budget Act or another statute for purposes of this section.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to expand or alter the scope of practice of licensed clinical social workers or marriage and family therapists.



Approved _____, 2003

Governor

